From the beginning of the Coutts/Milk River protest, we have been receiving questions and complaints from our residents about the check stops/roadblocks, the requirements of drivers at these stops, and the conduct of the officers. To help answer some of these questions and provide explanations and information to our residents, we would appreciate answers to the following questions.

Questions for RCMP

Your = RCMP or any other law enforcement agency currently operating in the Coutts / Milk River area.

1. What is your legal authority to set up check stops on all roads leading in or out of Coutts and on all side roads between Coutts and Milk River?
2. What is the purpose of the check stops?
3. Are the check stops considered detentions?
4. What information is the driver legally required to produce to the officer? Name, Driver's License, Registration?
5. What is your legal authority to take a picture of the driver's license presented by the driver?
6. For what purpose are these photos being taken?
7. Where is this information (license photos) being stored and for how long?
8. What is your legal authority to restrict any vehicle from entering the Coutts area?
9. What is your legal authority to restrict anyone from travelling into the Coutts area?
10. What criteria are you are using to determine who is allowed to enter the Coutts area?
11. What is your legal authority to restrict entry family or friends of the residents of Coutts?
12. What is your legal authority to ask questions about the contents of their vehicle?
13. What is your legal authority to restrict anyone from bringing in supplies for other persons in the Coutts area?
14. Why is the Purolator package truck being stopped from coming to Coutts?
15. Why would homecare health providers be stopped from coming to Coutts?
16. How do persons register complaints with the RCMP if they feel their rights have been violated or if they have a complaint about the treatment, they received at one of these check stops?

We are having a Village Council meeting on Tuesday, February 8th, starting at 7:00 p.m., at the Coutts Civic Centre. If it is possible to have an RCMP representative come to that meeting, to provide information and answer questions, that would be very helpful.